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County Borough of Sunderland

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1956

SUNDERLAND :
J. D. TODD, SANS STREET PRINTING WORKS,
1957.

65538

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND

REPORT

ON THE

Health and Sanitary Administration

OF THE BOROUGH

FOR THE YEAR 1956

BY

J. MACLACHLAN,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health and
Principal School Medical Officer

HEALTH COMMITTEE AT THE 31st DECEMBER, 1956.

The Right Worshipful The Mayor
(Alderman T. H. Cavanagh)

Alderman J. Cohen, O.B.E., J.P., Chairman.

Alderman Miss E. E. Blacklock, Vice-Chairman.

Alderman M. E. English.

Alderman J. Hoy, M.B.E., B.E.M., J.P.

Alderman E. Johnston, J.P.

Alderman W. Miller.

Councillor E. Armstrong	Councillor Mrs. J. Ledger.
„ Mrs. M. S. Barry.	„ J. H. Redfearn.
„ J. W. D. Bell.	„ J. A. Smith.
„ Mrs. M. E. Burlinson.	„ R. B. Spain.
„ T. M. Carr.	„ J. Starkey.
„ T. C. Cousins.	„ J. G. Waller.
„ C. J. Devine.	„ L. Watson.
„ T. Greenman.	„ J. W. P. Wilkinson.
„ W. N. Jackson.	„ Mrs. M. R. Young.

Co-opted Members.

Alderman Mrs. K. Cohen.

Alderman Mrs. J. Huggins, J.P.

Councillor W. Wilson (Education Committee).

Dr. P. Hickey (Sunderland Division B.M.A.).

Dr. J. S. Makepeace (Sunderland Executive Council).

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, AT THE 31st DECEMBER, 1956.

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer	J. MACLACHLAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Acting Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare ...	ETHEL BROWELL, M.D., B.S.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare	BERTHA FLINTOFF, M.B., B.S.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare	JEAN R. M. JOHNSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare (half-time)	MARION L. BAINBRIDGE, M.B., Ch.B.
Consultant Chest Physicians (part-time)	ADAM B. WHITE, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. JAMES F. E. JOHNSON, M.B., Ch.B.
Consultant Venereologist	E. S. KIRKHOUSE, T.D., M.D.
Borough Analyst	W. GORDON CAREY, F.R.I.C.
Chief Public Health Inspector ...	NORMAN ADOLPHUS MARLEE, Cert. R.S.H.
Chief Clerk	H. CLIFFE, A.C.I.S.
Superintendent Health Visitor ...	MISS M. M. WAGGOTT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.R.S.H.
Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives...	MISS E. E. FISHER, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Special Inspectors: Factories and Workshops (1); (Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector); Meat Inspectors (2); Food, Drugs and Dairies (1); Housing (2); Drainage (2)	Total 8
District Public Health Inspectors (1 Part-time Meat)	9
Rodent Control Officer and 3 Rodent Operatives	4
Removal and Disinfecting Staff	2
District Health Visitors	26
Tuberculosis Health Visitors	4
Municipal Midwives	28
Almoner Clerk (V.D. Department) (Seconded H.V.)	1
Sister (Light Treatment Department)	1
Domestic Help Organiser	1
Clerical Staff	21
Driver (Welfare and Other Foods)	1

1 Drainage Assistant, 1 Drainage Van Driver, 1 Caretaker and 3 Cleaners (Health Department), 245 Domestic Helps (Full and Part-time), 1 Caretaker (Newcastle Road I.W.C.).

ALDERMAN JACK COHEN HEALTH CENTRE: Opened 27.10.56. Centre Superintendent, 1 Health Visitor, 1 State Registered Nurse, 3 Clerks, Telephonist, Pharmacist, Assistant in Dispensing, 1 Dental Technician, 4 Cleaners.

ELMS WEST DAY NURSERY: Matron, Warden, 8 Nursing Staff, Cook and 3 Cleaners.

THOMPSON PARK DAY NURSERY: Matron, Assistant Matron and 8 Nursing Staff, Cook and 3 Cleaners.

PARKER MEMORIAL HOME FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS—Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and 1 Cleaner.

PUPIL MIDWIFERY HOSTEL, 4 THORNHILL PARK : Resident Superintendent, Cook, Maid and 3 Cleaners.

AMBULANCE SERVICE: 1 Ambulance Officer, 1 Ambulance Driver (Acting Deputy Ambulance Officer), 34 Ambulance Drivers, 1 Mechanic and 1 Apprentice Mechanic.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE: 1 Medical Officer for Mental Health—Psychiatrist (part-time) Dr. L. W. Robinson.

MENTAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, 7 MURTON STREET: 1 Mental Deficiency Officer, 2 Social Workers (one acting for Duly Authorised Officer when necessary), 1 Typist Clerk, 3 Cleaners and Part-time Dinner Attendants.

OCCUPATION CENTRE : 1 Supervisor, 1 Assistant Supervisor.

ELDER GIRLS' CLASS : 1 Supervisor.

INDUSTRIAL CENTRE, RAILWAY ROW: 1 Supervisor (male instructor)

HEALTH DEPARTMENT, "THORNHOLME": 1 Duly Authorised Officer—Lunacy and Mental Treatment Act.

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COUNTY BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND

To: The Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1956.

The work for the year was undertaken for the most part under the direction of my predecessor, Doctor A. S. Hebblethwaite, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., who served the Authority with distinction for twenty-nine years prior to his retirement in September, 1956. He took with him the good wishes of the Committee, and of all members of the Staff.

The general state of health of the community has been good, and the infant mortality rate was the lowest yet recorded. In the field of Tuberculosis, once more fewer deaths have occurred than hitherto, and the factors playing their part in this gradually falling death rate have included effective new drugs and improved environmental conditions. The number of new notifications has shown no such fall, but procedures such as mass radiography in adults, and skin tests in children permitted early treatment of patients and careful surveillance of contacts. The present use of B.C.G. vaccination against Tuberculosis is an additional form of attack which may produce favourable results in the future.

Another form of protection against disease introduced in the year under review, was Poliomyelitis Vaccination. This vaccine was eagerly sought by parents whose children are eligible to receive it and the limited supply in which the vaccine was made available was a source of disappointment to the public.

In the latter part of the year the Authority inaugurated a combined service and a new venture in the North East, namely the opening of the Alderman Jack Cohen Health Centre, which houses under one roof medical, dental, pharmaceutical and nursing services. This handsome and comprehensive Centre brings together General Medical Practitioners employed by the Executive Council and Medical and Dental Officers employed by the Local Health Authority and the School Medical Service. Loose though the integration may be, it is a forward step in overcoming the difficulties inherent in the tripartite structure of the National Health Service, and it has excited the interest and admiration of many other Authorities.

A very important part of the work of the Department, namely, environmental hygiene, again received much attention and, in particular, slum clearance proceeded as quickly as the rehousing of families occupying unfit houses would permit.

Among staff changes during the year, mention must be made of Dr. W. Hinds, the part-time Psychiatrist, whose work has been invaluable to the Mental Health Service for the past eight years.

I wish to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support and assistance, and to my medical colleagues in the hospitals and in general practice, for their close co-operation in work of mutual interest. I am most grateful for the help of the entire staff of the Health Department, each member of whom has given enthusiastic, loyal and excellent service.

J. MACLACHLAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
"Thornholme,"
Sunderland.

August, 1957.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND

SECTION A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

Area. The Area of the Borough is 9,013.574 acres exclusive of foreshore and tidal waters.

Population. The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population of the Borough was 182,800.

Inhabited Houses. The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1956, according to the Rate Books, was 48,151.

Rateable Value. The rateable value at 1st April, 1956, was £2,069,236, and the sum represented by a penny rate was £8,385.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

				Total	M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate	...	...	...	3,606	1,860	1,746
Illegitimate	...	...	...	138	80	58
BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population	...	...	...	20.48		
Birth rate for England and Wales	...			15.7		
Stillbirths—Legitimate 88, Illegitimate 5	...			93		
RATE per 1,000 total (live and stillbirths)				24.24		
Stillbirth rate for England and Wales	...			23		
Deaths: Total	...	...	...	1,864	1,029	835
Under 1 year	...	...	...	95		
Under 1 month	...	...	...	63		
DEATH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population	...	...	...	10.2		
Death rate for England and Wales	...			11.7		
Maternal Deaths:	...	...	...	2		
Maternal Death Rate	...	...	...	0.52 per 1,000 births		
Puerperal Sepsis	—					
Other Puerperal Causes	2					
Maternal Death Rate for England and Wales				0.56		
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age—						
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...			25.37
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...					24.68
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...					43.48
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales	...					23.8
Death Rate of Infants under 4 weeks of age—						
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...			16.83
Neo-natal death rate for England and Wales	...					16.9

Death Rate from Tuberculosis (all forms)—	...	...	...	0.15
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	28
Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	0.12

Principal Causes of Death—

Heart Disease (including 55 other circulatory diseases)	...	589
Cancer (including 15 leukaemia and aleukaemia)	...	375
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	...	274
Respiratory Diseases	...	235

Cremation. The Crematorium opened in the Autumn of 1951 and the necessary official procedure for this form of disposal of the dead has continued to be carried out in a satisfactory manner.

During the year under review, 1,501 applications for cremation were received, compared with 1,284 for the previous year. These were duly examined by the Medical Referees in the department prior to sanction being given for this method of disposal.

Causes of Death during 1956	Sex	Nett Deaths at the sub-joined ages of 'Residents' whether occurring within or without the district.								
		ALL AGES	Under 1 yr.	1 to 5 yr.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 & over
Tuberculosis of the resp. system	M	22	—	—	—	—	3	15	2	2
	F	4	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis...	M	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	M	5	1	—	—	—	1	3	—	—
	F	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—
Cancer, Malignant Disease ..	M	202	—	—	—	2	7	88	55	50
	F	160	—	1	—	—	9	53	61	36
Leukemia and Aleukemia ...	M	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4
	F	6	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2
Diabetes	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	M	117	—	—	—	1	—	24	29	63
	F	157	—	—	—	—	1	21	50	85
Heart Diseases	M	279	—	—	—	—	8	72	83	116
	F	255	—	—	—	1	6	50	63	135
Other circulatory diseases ...	M	26	—	—	—	—	1	3	9	13
	F	29	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	20
Influenza	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia	M	54	15	—	—	—	3	14	15	7
	F	37	5	—	—	—	—	4	9	19
Bronchitis	M	83	—	—	—	—	3	38	30	12
	F	35	—	—	—	—	1	5	8	21
Other diseases of respiratory system	M	15	—	—	—	—	—	6	5	4
	F	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	21	—	—	—	—	3	6	7	5
	F	5	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	M	15	1	—	—	2	2	5	4	1
	F	9	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	3
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	M	15	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	9
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	F	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ...	M	14	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	7	4	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	M	78	29	2	3	3	3	18	10	10
	F	81	20	2	2	2	9	14	13	19
Motor vehicle accidents ...	M	11	1	3	—	1	3	3	—	—
	F	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—
All other accidents	M	36	3	1	2	—	8	5	4	13
	F	22	2	1	—	—	—	2	3	14
Suicide	M	14	—	—	—	—	5	7	—	2
	F	6	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	—
Homicide or operations of war	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	M	1029	64	6	5	9	51	316	264	314
	F	835	31	5	3	8	35	167	221	365

SECTION B

 AMBULANCE SERVICE

During the year under review there has again been a further increase in demand, and the number of patients carried has again increased over those of previous years as shown by the following table.

Every endeavour has been made to curtail abuse of the Service, and where possible arrangements have been made for cases to be removed by other forms of transport. No long distance journeys are carried out by the vehicles under the control of this Authority. All vehicles are fitted with short-wave radio telephones, which have proved to be of considerable assistance in maintaining the efficiency of the Service, headquarters being able to contact vehicles and divert them to emergencies, accidents and other calls, thus resulting in considerable saving both of time and mileage.

				Mileage	Patients, etc.
1954	...	...	...	197,895	53,711
1955	...	...	...	201,915	53,902
1956	...	...	...	197,662	56,169

Staff—

The strength of the staff during 1956 was as follows:

- 1 Ambulance Officer
- 1 Senior Shift Leader
- 3 Shift Leaders
- 5 Drivers—12 midnight to 8 a.m.
- 5 „ —4 p.m. to 12 midnight
- 4 „ —9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (for accidents)
- 2 „ —1 p.m. to 9 p.m. (to cover peak period)
- 9 „ —8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 4 „ —Relief for rest days of staff
- 2 „ —8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 12 midnight
(for H.I.D. Cases)
- 1 Mechanic
- 1 Mechanic (Apprentice)

Removal of Cases—

General Hospital	...	...	...	14,668
Highfield Welfare	...	...	...	222
Hospital for Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	2,600
Royal Infirmary	...	...	...	9,804
Accident and Orthopædic Hospital	...	...	...	16,042
Children's Hospital	...	...	...	1,891
Ryhope General Hospital	...	...	...	3,493
County Cases	...	...	...	2,634
Accident cases to various hospitals	...	...	...	1,648
Eye Infirmary	...	...	...	784
Other journeys	...	...	...	2,383
				<hr/>
				56,169

Removals by Ambulances	...	...	...	46,354
Removals by Sitting Case Cars	...	...	...	9,815
Miles covered by Ambulances	...	...	...	144,567
Miles covered by Sitting Case Cars	...	...	...	53,095
Miles covered by Utility Van	...	...	...	5,017

Vehicles in Operation—

Ambulances

				Total Mileage completed	Year
ABR. 15 Austin	...	...	...	176,342	1948
ABR. 602 Austin	...	...	...	122,195	1949
ABR. 519 Austin	...	...	...	153,027	1949
AGR. 873 Bedford	...	...	...	157,371	1950
AGR. 953 Bedford	...	...	...	139,347	1950
GR. 7578 Humber (disposed of 1956)	...	...	...	57,983	1941
CBR. 800 Bedford	...	...	...	54,050	1952
GGW 582 Chevrolet	Ex A.R.P.	...	...	60,966	1941
EBR. 840 Bedford	...	...	...	27,888	1954
BGR. 255 Bedford	...	...	...	81,644	1951
BGR. 256 Bedford	...	...	...	85,198	1951
GGR 342 Bedford (Purchased 1956)	...	...	...	5,978	1956

Sitting Case Vehicles

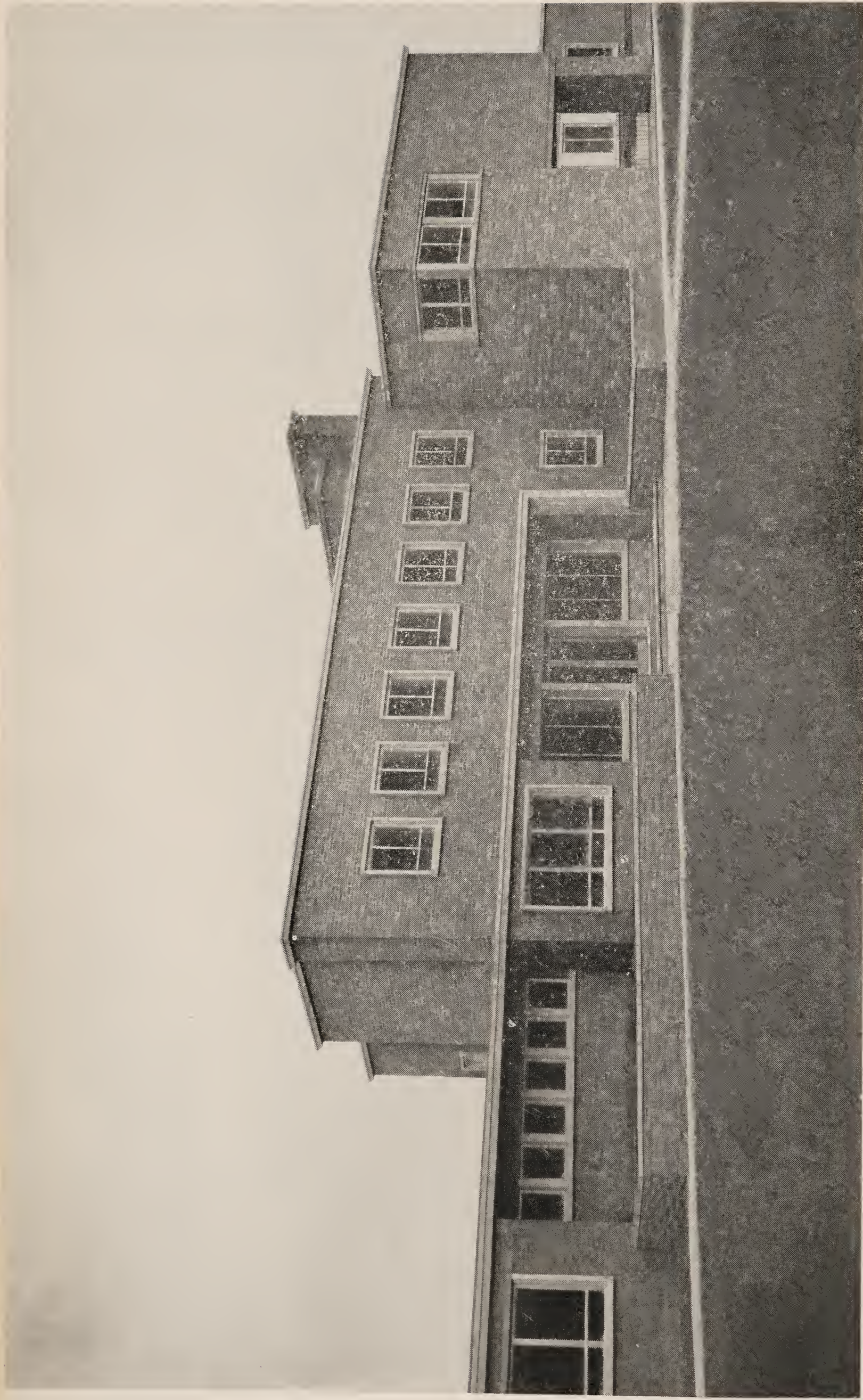
CGR. 879 Bedford	...	...	...	58,343	1953
DBR. 320 Bedford	...	...	...	66,568	1953
DBR. 867 Bedford	...	...	...	56,176	1953

Civil Defence

One Bedford ambulance GR. 5978 has been used for instruction in driving and sectional training for Civil Defence

Volunteers	94,042	1939
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The Ambulance Service has been maintained in vehicles and personnel to the maximum of the establishment and even then the Service has been fully extended.



ALDERMAN JACK COHEN HEALTH CENTRE, SPRINGWELL.

SECTION C.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Infant Welfare Centres : —

There are 20 Infant Welfare Sessions held weekly. All the sessions, with the exception of 6 on our own premises and one at the premises of the Sunderland District Nursing Association, are held in rented Church Halls.

Day.	Mornings.	Afternoons.
Monday	—	Southwick: Dean Terrace, Church Hall. Thorney Close : Thorndale Road Community Centre
Tuesday	7 Newcastle Road. Alderman Jack Cohen Health Centre, Springwell	Grangetown: St. Aidan's Church Hall. Alderman Jack Cohen Health Centre, Springwell 7 Newcastle Road. Ford Estate :
Wed'sday	Millfield: St. Mark's Church Hall.	Millfield: St. Mark's Church Hall.
Thursday	Millfield : St. Mark's Church Hall. Sunderland District Nursing Association Victoria House, Murton Street 7 Newcastle Road.	Monkwearmouth: Dock Street Church Hall. Pallion: St. Mary Magdalene's Church Hall. Humbledon: Ettrick Grove Wesleyan Chapel
Friday	7 Newcastle Road.	Fulwell: Priestman Hall. Hendon: St. Barnabas Church Hall. Pennywell: St. Thomas's Church Hall.

Health Centre : —

The Alderman Jack Cohen Health Centre, a photograph of which appears opposite, was opened in October of this year, it being the first Comprehensive Health Centre to be inaugurated in the North-East.

The Centre houses in one building Maternity and Child Welfare Services in the right wing, 5 General Practitioners' Suites and a Pharmacy Department in the left wing, and 3 Dental Surgeries on the first floor. On this floor there is also living accommodation for the resident caretaker.

The Services were gradually brought into operation, the first being the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic, followed by the Dental Section towards the end of the year.

It is hoped to have all the Services functioning in the early part of 1957.

Welfare Foods : —

The distribution of Welfare Foods has continued to be carried out under the same arrangements as in the previous year.

The W.V.S. has again rendered valuable assistance in this direction.

	1955.	1956.
Total No. of tins of National Dried Milk Distributed	163,390	162,557
Total No. of bottles of Orange Juice	133,505	148,257
Total No. of bottles of Cod Liver Oil	26,233	23,547
Total No. of packets of Vitamin Tablets	9,254	9,935

Ante-Natal Clinics.

There are 5 ante-natal sessions held weekly with a Medical Officer in attendance. In addition, there are four Midwives' Booking Sessions weekly, for mothers wishing to avail themselves of the Domiciliary Midwifery Service. Those mothers wishing to book the Midwives of the District Nursing Association attend the premises of that Association, where Midwives' Sessions are held.

Attendances at Medical Officers' Sessions compared with the previous year are shown hereunder: —

Year.	Primary attendances.	Subsequent attendances.
1955	539	978
1956	496	1,196

Attendances at Midwives' Sessions : —

Clinics	2,000
Midwives' houses—examination rooms	4,127

Cases requiring specialist advice are referred to the Sunderland Maternity Hospital for further opinion.

Expectant mothers are referred for Blood investigation to the "Rhesus Investigation" clinic held weekly at the Sunderland Maternity Hospital. Reports of the Rhesus Factor, Blood Group, Hæmoglobin Estimation and Wasserman Reaction are sent to the Local Authority Medical Officer. Where necessary a complete blood count is done.

Arrangements are made for the husband to attend at an evening session at the Maternity Hospital for blood grouping in "Rhesus negative" patients. In cases where an umbilical cord specimen of blood is requested, this is taken by the Midwife attending the delivery. In suspected or known cases of venereal disease, expectant mothers are referred directly to the Venereal Diseases Clinic.

Maternity outfits are issued weekly at the Health Office on presentation of a form duly signed by the Midwife who is booked for the delivery.

The Maternity packs and sterilised outfits are made up in individual boxes and contain the following items :

24 large Maternity Pads	6 2-oz. packets cotton wool
3 1-yard cord ligatures	6 5-in. x 5in. Umbilical Pads
$\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. Cord Powder	1 Gamgee Tissue Sheet
1 sheet Waterproof paper	25-in. x 28-in.
36-in. x 30in.	

The outfits are normally supplied when the patient is 36 weeks pregnant. All Midwives are supplied with outfits for use in emergency cases.

Post Natal Clinics

Two sessions were held weekly, one at Newcastle Road and one at the District Nursing Association. In addition, post-natal cases were examined at the ante-natal session at Pennywell.

156 new cases were examined and 177 subsequent visits were made. The total number of attendances during the year was 333.

Health Visitors

The full establishment of Health Visitors was 1 Superintendent and 26 Health Visitors and at the end of 1956 there were 1 Superintendent and 22 Health Visitors on the staff. 1 Health Visitor acts as a full-time Almoner at the V.D. Department of the Royal Infirmary. There were no Student Health Visitors in training during this year.

The Superintendent Health Visitor is a member of the Committee in connection with the Joint Circular from the Home Office, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education regarding children neglected in their own homes.

Post-graduate courses are attended by four Health Visitors each year.

During the year Health Visitors paid 67,487 visits to homes.

Visits in age groups :

Under 1 year	1—2 years	2—5 years
15,768	8,817	26,927

The total number of visits, i.e., 67,487 included visits in connection with: —

Infectious Diseases,
Chronic Sick and Old People,
Partially Blind,
Home Accidents and the
After-care of Patients discharged from Hospitals.

Various Lectures were given during the year by the Health Visitors.

In addition, preliminary talks were given by the Superintendent Health Visitor to a number of groups of Student Nurses from both the General Hospital and the Royal Infirmary. These Student Nurses were also allowed to accompany the Health Visitors in the course of their duties to gain experience of visiting cases.

Leukaemia Survey: —

At the request of the Department of Social Medicine of Oxford University, this Authority co-operated in a Survey into the deaths of children from Leukaemia. In order to carry out the Survey it was necessary to link up a child control with each deceased child. Enquiries were made in respect of six cases and six controls, necessitating twelve visits in all, and the results forwarded to the Department of Social Medicine. The visits were carried out on behalf of the local Health Authority by a Medical Practitioner.

Home Accidents :

During the year under review 18 such accidents were reported to this Department. These can be summarised as follows: —

5 suffering from burns,
2 from scalds,
2 from fractured skulls,
2 from lacerations,
2 from fractures,
1 from head injuries,
4 from drinking poisonous liquids.

All the cases related to children under 5 years of age.
One child died from extensive burns.

Co-ordinating Committee :

The following Organisations are represented on this Committee :

Health Department
 N.S.P.C.C.
 Children's Department
 Welfare Department
 Housing Department
 National Assistance Board
 W.V.S.
 Probation Office
 Police
 Moral Welfare Department
 Education Department
 Guild of Help (including National Society for Cancer Relief,
 Tuberculosis Care Committee and Care in illness
 Committee).

Meetings of the constituent members of this Committee have been held during the past year, although not at regular intervals, but much valuable work has been accomplished by day to day contact. In this manner, problems have been dealt with as they arise, thus avoiding the worsening of conditions, which most probably would occur if such cases had to wait for a regularly convened meeting.

As a result of these efforts, improvement has been observed in certain cases, but it is not always easy to assess the long term effects of the efforts made by the various members of this Committee.

During their regular routine visiting of children under five years of age, the Health Visitors pay special attention to children living in unsatisfactory conditions and those who could be described as being members of problem families. They also visit mothers and children who are in the temporary accommodation of the Welfare Department.

Diphtheria Immunisation

There were three weekly sessions devoted to Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination, one at Newcastle Road Centre, one at the Health Centre, and one at the District Nursing Association, Murton Street, in addition to these sessions, vaccinations, and immunisations against diphtheria were performed each month at the Infant Welfare sessions on the outlying estates, viz. Southwick, Pennywell, Springwell, Thorney Close and Ford.

Routine propaganda was continued throughout the year.

The Mobile Immunisation Unit, which has been in operation since June, 1954, visited all areas of the Borough for 6 weeks during the Autumn Campaign the response being satisfactory.

It is gratifying to record that for the third year in succession, no notifications of diphtheria have been received.

Combined Diphtheria and Pertussis Immunisation and Immunisation against Whooping Cough were carried out from the age of 8 months at the special request of parents.

The total number of children under 5 years of age who were immunised during the year was 2,348 as follows:—

Age at 31st Dec , 1956	0-1 yrs	1-2 yrs	2-3 yrs	3-4 yrs	4-5 yrs	Total
Local Authority Medical Officers	195	896	200	100	59	1450
Private Practitioners	115	641	91	35	16	898

“Boosting Doses.”—811 Boosting Doses were given to children who had been previously immunised.

Smallpox Vaccination—1,438 primary vaccinations were successful; 245 revaccinations were carried out.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination—Vaccination against Poliomyelitis began during the year and was offered to age groups selected by the Ministry of Health. 381 registrations were received for pre-school children and the following table gives details of the number wholly protected :

BORN IN	1951	1952	1953	1954	TOTAL
	14	20	32	10	76

Midwifery Service.

The Establishment consists of:—

- 1 Medical Supervisor, who is the Acting Deputy Medical Officer of Health.
- 1 Non-medical Supervisor.
- 1 Deputy non-medical Supervisor.
- 28 Domiciliary Midwives employed directly by the Local Health Authority.
- 5 Domiciliary Midwives employed through the agency of Sunderland District Nursing Association.

One more house for occupation by a Midwife was completed, thus bringing the number of specially adapted midwives' Council houses up to 9. These houses have an additional room equipped as an examination room.

During the year, the following cases were attended by Municipal Midwives:—

- 1,810 Confinements required 29,590 nursing visits. (This figure includes 71 women who were admitted to Hospital for delivery and 1 miscarriage).
- 11,636 ante-natal visits to patients.
- 2,927 post-natal visits to patients.

Domiciliary Midwives continued to "follow-up" cases discharged from the Sunderland Maternity Hospital before completion of the puerperium and during the year 1,412 cases were referred for nursing and "follow-up" visits.

The following cases were attended by Midwives of the District Nursing Association: —

453 confinements required 12,616 nursing visits.
4,992 ante-natal visits to patients.
1,405 post-natal visits to patients.

Gas and Air Analgesia—

Number of cases in which Gas and Air Analgesia was administered compared with two previous years.

Year	(a) Municipal Midwives	(b) Midwives of District Nursing Association.
1954	771	241
1955	767	199
1956	916	226

Sunderland Second Period Training School—

The Second period training of pupil midwives continued throughout the year.

27 pupils completed their training at 4 Thornhill Park.

16 pupils were successful in obtaining their certificates at the first attempt, 7 satisfied the examiners at the second attempt, and one passed at a subsequent attempt.

13 pupils completed their training at the District Nursing Association.

11 pupils were successful in obtaining their certificates at the first attempt and 2 satisfied the examiners at the second attempt.

The Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives gave talks to groups of Student Nurses from both the General Hospital and the Royal Infirmary and subsequently the Students were allowed to accompany the midwives on their rounds.

Premature Infants—

There were 376 notifications of premature live births received of cases resident in the County Borough.

129 of this number were born at home, and with the exception of 29 transferred to Hospital, were nursed entirely at home.

4 Neonatal deaths occurred in those infants nursed at home.

1 died within 6 hours of birth,
1 died within 1 day of birth,
1 died within 2 days of birth,
1 died within 3 days of birth.

Sudden Deaths including Accidental Mechanical Suffocation :

No.	Age.	Cause of Death.
1	1 hour	Asphyxia.
1	10 hours	Atelectasis.
1	2 days	Asphyxia.
1	4 days	Cardiac arrest. Haemolytic disease.
1	5 days	Congenital defect.
1	1 month	Uraemia
1	1 month	Acute Broncho Pneumonia.
2	3 months	Broncho Pneumonia
1	5 months	Broncho Pneumonia
1	11 months	Laryngeal Obstruction.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum :

There were 5 cases notified during the year. In each case sight was unimpaired.

Domestic Helps :

Staff : 1 Organiser.
2 Clerical.

At the end of the year 9 whole time and 228 part time Domestic Helps were employed—a full time equivalent of 123 helps.

Domestic help was provided as follows:—

Maternity cases (including expectant mothers)	...	109
Tuberculosis	... ..	23
Chronic sick, including aged and infirm	... ..	757
Others	... ..	46

Ultra Violet Radiation :

173 mothers and children made 4,236 attendances at the Health Office during 1956.

26 pre-school children made 712 attendances at the School Clinic, Southwick, where two sessions weekly continued with the exception of school holidays.

Minor Ailments :

Pre-school children attend at the School Clinics for the treatment of minor ailments.

87 pre-school children made 318 attendances.

Ophthalmic Clinic :

85 pre-school children suffering from defective vision were examined and glasses were prescribed in 46 cases.

N.S.P.C.C. :

5 new cases were referred to this Society.

Illegitimate Children :

Unmarried expectant mothers and married women expecting illegitimate children were referred to the Moral Welfare Officer.

Cases during 1956 :—

Unmarried mothers	... ..	76
Married women with illegitimate children	...	10
Divorced woman with illegitimate child	... ..	1

Parker Memorial Home :

Staff: Resident Superintendent.

Resident Deputy Superintendent.

Non-resident Domestic help.

Girls admitted during 1956	19
----------------------------	--------	----

Babies admitted during 1956	15
-----------------------------	--------	----

Average length of stay in the Home:—

Ante-natal period	34 days.
-------------------	--------	----------

Post-natal period	29 days.
-------------------	--------	----------

Girls are transferred to the Sunderland Maternity Hospital for delivery.

Five babies were discharged from the Home with their mothers and in addition ten were discharged with a view to adoption.

Registration of Nursing Homes.

One Nursing Home is on the Register. No unregistered homes were discovered during the year and no applications for registration were received.

Day Nurseries :

There were two Day Nurseries operating during the year.

The average daily attendance at Thompson Park Nursery of children from 0—2 years was 8.9 and of children from 2—5 years 19.8.

The average daily attendance at Elms West Nursery of children from 0—2 years was 15.1 and of children 2—5 years 28.

One candidate entered for the examination of the National Nursery Examination Board and was successful in obtaining the certificate at the first attempt.

Nurseries and Child Minder's Act, 1948 :

No applications for registration were received during the year.

Blind Persons Act :

Visits to partially blind persons on the register were carried out by the Health Visitors during the year.

INCIDENCE OF BLINDNESS.

During the twelve months from 1st January to 31st December, 1956, seventy-five forms B.D. 8 were completed, and of these nine cases were certified Not Blind, fifty-two were certified Blind, and fourteen Partially Sighted.

Blind Persons.

There were no children or cases of Retrolental Fibroplasia registered in 1956.

Twelve cases of blindness were caused by Cataracts, of these treatment was not recommended in three cases. Hospital supervision was recommended in five cases, and of these, three are attending the Hospital while the other two refuse to do so. One case has undergone surgical treatment, while three are awaiting such treatment, and in two cases their general condition is not suitable at present. One case recommended medical treatment has since died.

Other causes of blindness were :—

Central Artery Thrombosis, Central Choroiditis, Central Degeneration, Cerebral Tumour, Choroidal Sclerosis, Detached Retina, Diabetes, Glaucoma, Hypertensive Retinopathy, Keratitis, Macular Degeneration, Myopia, Old Iridocyclitis, Optic Atrophy, Retinitis, Senile Central Retinopathy, Sympathetic Uveitis, and Unknown causes.

Hospital supervision was recommended in eight cases, medical in ten cases and surgical in two cases. One case of unknown cause has undergone surgical treatment. One case of Old Keratitis is attending Hospital and awaiting admission for surgical treatment. No treatment was recommended for seventeen cases. Three of these cases have since died.

There were six cases of Glaucoma, of these two cases were recommended Hospital supervision and are attending periodically. One case recommended Hospital supervision, medical and surgical treatment will not attend the Hospital for treatment, while one case recommended medical treatment is receiving such treatment. In the other two cases no treatment was recommended.

There were no cases of blindness reported as a result of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Of the new cases registered during the year, one male is to spend a period of Rehabilitation at the Centre in Torquay, in early 1957. Forty-one of the registered Blind persons are over the age of sixty-five years.

A. Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons.

	CAUSE OF DISABILITY							
	Cataract		Glaucoma		Retrolental Fibroplasia		Others	
	Blind	Partially Sighted	Blind	Partially Sighted	Blind	Partially Sighted	Blind	Partially Sighted
(1) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7 (c) of Forms B.D. 8 recommends:								
(a) No treatment ...	3	—	2	—	—	—	17	—
(b) Treatment—								
medical ...	1	—	2	1	—	—	10	1
surgical ...	6	2	1	—	—	—	2	—
optical ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
hospital supervision...	5	2	3	—	—	1	8	3
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment ...	1	1	1	1	—	—	Surg. 1	Opt. 4
... ..	Surgical	Optical	Medical	Medical	—	—	Med. 7	Med. 1

B. Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	5
(ii) Number of cases in which:—	
(a) Vision lost	—
(b) Vision impaired	—
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year	—

Partially Sighted Persons :

Eleven names were added to the register of Partially Sighted persons, and three were re-examined but found to be still Partially Sighted.

One case of Retrolental Fibroplasia was registered, this being a boy aged five years. This case attends the Barbara Priestman Special School. Hospital supervision was recommended and he attends periodically.

Two cases were due to Myopia and one Myopia and Nystagmus, all three were children who were recommended optical treatment and have been supplied with spectacles. One adult case was due to Myopia and Cataract. In this case Hospital supervision and surgical treatment later was recommended, but as she was only registered in October she has not undergone such treatment yet but attends the Hospital regularly. Another male child of five years was registered, the cause being Congenital Cataracts. Hospital supervision, optical and surgical treatment was recommended; he is attending the Hospital and has been supplied with spectacles. One adult case of Glaucoma was recommended Hospital supervision and medical treatment; he attends the Hospital periodically and receives the treatment.

One patient was suffering from Central Degeneration and Homonymous Hemianopia, Hospital supervision and medical treatment was recommended, and one female child aged nine years, suffering from Congenital Optic Atrophy was recommended Hospital supervision. One person suffering from Mixed Astigmatism was recommended Hospital supervision and optical treatment. All three cases are attending the Hospital and have received the treatment recommended. One case suffering from Nystagmus was recommended no treatment.

Two of the registered Partially Sighted persons are over the age of sixty-five years.

Home Nursing :

The Sunderland District Nursing Association, Murton Street, has, as the Agent of the Local Health Authority since July 1948, performed home nursing duties in the Borough. The service is a "day service" between the hours of 8-30 a.m. and 10 p.m. There is no "night service" in operation to date.

The Staff consists of 1 Superintendent, 2 Assistant Superintendents, 24 full-time nurses, including 2 male nurses, and 7 part-time nurses.

Six "contract" houses on outlying estates have been allotted by the Corporation for the accommodation of district nurses.

The Service has been operated on similar lines to previous years and the number of calls upon it has again increased but I am pleased to be able to report that all the demands have been met.

Nursing appliances were loaned when necessary.

Classification of main types of cases nursed :

				No. of cases.	No. of visits.
Medical	...	...	...	2,873	86,447
Surgical	...	...	...	840	17,390
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	76	3,547
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	13	257
Midwifery and Maternity					
Complications	...	...	...	32	421
Others	...	...	...	41	1,390

The Superintendent gave talks to groups of Student Nurses from both the General Hospital and the Royal Infirmary and subsequently the Students were allowed to accompany the District Nurses on their rounds.

The following table gives details of the amount of child nursing carried out during the year by the District Nursing Service. All cases, whether referred by General Practitioner or other responsible persons, have received attention, the Nurses working under the direction of the Medical Practitioner and the supervision of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendents. When infectious cases have been nursed, the nurse has been provided with a special set of protective clothing. There has been full co-operation with the doctors and other Public Health services and, if there has been any doubt about the progress of a case, the doctor has been contacted immediately. There is no special "Children's Nursing Unit."

RESULT

	Cases				Visits				Convalescent				Trans to Hosp.				For Other causes				Remaining on Books			
	U	1	1-5	5-15	U	1	1-5	5-15	U	1	1-5	5-15	U	1	1-5	5-15	U	1	1-5	5-15	U	1	1-5	5-15
Pneumonia	25	24	24	24	157	156	155	23	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	37	34	16	16	217	182	97	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pleurisy	—	—	1	1	—	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Influenza	1	5	3	3	17	12	17	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles	1	—	1	1	5	—	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough	4	1	—	—	37	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever	—	1	2	2	—	6	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Mumps	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
? Poliomyelitis	—	—	1	1	—	—	25	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Chicken Pox	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
P.O. Removal—Toe Nail	—	—	2	2	—	—	22	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Septic Lesions, Abscesses, etc.	11	17	56	56	75	79	370	13	1	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ears, Otitis Media	14	55	87	87	57	382	482	52	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Skin: Impetigo	3	22	19	19	22	191	153	21	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Eczema	—	—	1	1	—	—	164	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Pediculosis Capitis	—	—	2	2	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Burns & Scalds	5	14	6	6	42	101	82	14	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Injuries	1	9	12	12	2	42	35	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Spina Bifida	3	1	—	—	110	9	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Gastro-Enteritis	2	2	—	—	13	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Threadworms	—	15	8	8	—	45	24	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
P.O. Circumcision	3	1	1	1	28	10	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
P.O. Appendicectomy	—	—	6	6	—	—	44	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Tonsillitis	—	10	49	49	—	60	367	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Adenitis	—	8	9	9	—	52	57	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Stomatitis	3	3	4	4	17	24	13	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Quinsy	—	—	4	4	—	—	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Anæmia	—	—	2	2	—	—	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Investigation	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Laryngitis	1	—	1	1	3	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Croup	1	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Intestinal	2	7	12	12	5	18	36	6	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Oph. Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
P.O. Skin Graft	—	1	—	—	—	8	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
P.O. Umbelical Hernia	—	1	—	—	—	10	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ischio Rectal Abscess	—	1	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Strabismus	—	1	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Blepharitis	—	1	—	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	48	236	330	330	821	1443	2216	214	104	7	7	6	308	3	9	14	3	6	2					

One death occurred amongst these cases, a child under one year of age, dying from Spina Bifida.

Total Cases 614. Total Visits 4,480. Total General Cases nursed in 1956, 3,875.

National Assistance Act 1948 (Section 47)

National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951

This Section deals with the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. During the year one case was removed under this Act.

Spastic Paralysis.

There are 68 Borough cases of spastic paralysis on the books at the Sunderland Orthopædic and Accident Hospital. 35 of these cases are below school leaving age. The liaison in the matter of treatment between the Sunderland County Borough and the local Orthopædic Service is quite good. Facilities are available for special teaching both by Home Teaching and at Thornfield Open Air School for the cases which are suitable. In addition, cases are occasionally referred to the Percy Hedley School for Spastics in Newcastle.

- 9 children were in attendance at Thornfield special school for physically handicapped children.
- 2 children were in attendance at Percy Hedley School, Newcastle, as weekly boarders.
- 3 children attended Ford Hall special school for educationally sub-normal children.

Mental Health Service :

There are 8 males and 19 females who are on the Mental Defectives' register under statutory supervision, suffering from cerebral palsy.

Four of these cases are in attendance at Occupation Centres for Mental Defectives, and despite their limitations, respond well to occupational guidance. Those who are not suitable for occupation centre training remain in their own homes.

There are no mentally defective spastic sufferers from Sunderland detained in hospitals provided solely for the treatment and training of this type of patient.

Epileptics.

School Children:

There were mild cases of "Petit Mal" in attendance at Primary Schools.

Five cases in Ford Hall Special School for Educationally Sub-normal children,

Six cases were in Residential Schools.

Two cases were in Thornfield Open-air Day School.

Welfare Department :

There were 42 cases on the register as follows : —

			Male	Female
16—20 years	...	...	7	1
21—30 „	...	...	4	4
31—40 „	...	...	4	8
41—50 „	...	...	5	5
51—60 „	...	...	2	2
			—	—
		TOTAL	22	20
			—	—

The above includes 3 boys who have been resident at the Lingfield Epileptic Colony but who have now been discharged home and are working.

No. of cases residing in premises managed by the Council : —

			Males	Females
Highfield	...	...	3	6
West Hendon House	...	...	—	1
Thorney Close	...	...	—	1
			—	—
		TOTAL	3	8
			—	—

No. residing in accommodation provided on behalf of the Council by Voluntary Organisations : —

			Males	Females
Chalfont Epileptic Colony	...	...	1	—
David Lewis Epileptic Colony	...	...	—	1
Bartlett Home	...	...	1	—
			—	—
			—	—
		TOTAL	2	1
			—	—

Difficulty is still being experienced in placing such cases in suitable employment, but those remaining in their own homes are well cared for and there is no evidence of neglect.

There are no “mentally defective” sufferers from the Borough detained in Hospitals provided solely for the treatment and training of this type of patient.

Mental Welfare Department :

There are 20 males and 15 females on the Mental Deficiency Register, suffering from epilepsy. Five of these cases are in attendance at the Occupation Centre for Mental Defectives.

SECTION D.

 SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water. The source of supply remains unchanged and the quality and quantity satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewage. 3,745 lineal yards of new sewers were laid by the Borough Surveyor during the year under review.

Rivers and Streams. No action has been taken for the prevention of pollution of the River Wear, which takes the effluent from 13 sewers.

Owing to the fact that the river Wear is a tidal river and taking sewage, little can be done to prevent or mitigate pollution.

Closet Accommodation. During the year 76 broken or otherwise defective watercloset basins were replaced by new wash-down pedestal basins.

Below will be found a table showing the conveniences in the Borough at the end of 1956:—

Houses, etc., with water-closets and movable						
ashbins	...	...	...	...	...	48,153
Houses, etc., with ashpits, privies and ashpits						
pan privies, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	33*

*These are not within a reasonable distance of a sewer.

Public Cleansing. The amount of domestic refuse removed during 1956 was 58,631 tons; street refuse 5,577 tons; salvage (including kitchen waste) 4,064 tons. In addition 52,253 gullies were emptied.

The arrangements for removal of house refuse continue to be efficient, the whole of the removal being carried out by means of closed freighters.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. The number of visits made by the District Inspectors during the period under review (including inspections, advisory visits, etc.) was 9,156.

**SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, VISITS AND NUISANCES
FOUND BY THE DISTRICT INSPECTORS.**

Houses and Premises Visits or Examinations on account of	Inspections and Visits.
Infectious Disease Notifications	202
Complaints	2164
Unfounded Complaints	13
House to House Work	—
Occupants: T.B. Old Persons	77
Occupants: Overcrowding	71
Occupants: Dirty Tenants	11
Rodent Infested and Verminous Premises ...	1
Work in Progress	200
Drainage	1183
Common Lodging Houses	89
Schools (Inspection of Conveniences)	5
Public Sanitary Conveniences	1
Licensed Houses, Theatres, etc.	150
Vans, Tents, etc.	4
Stables, etc.	1
Offensive Trades	21
Shops	194
Other Visits and Inspections	4699
Food & Drugs	70
TOTAL	9156

NOTICES SERVED IN CONSEQUENCE OF NUISANCES, &c.
FOUND DURING INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

	Verbal	Owner	Occupier	Total	No. of Nuisances Abated and Work Performed
To cleanse, repair or renew drains ...	1	244	9	254	229
„ renew defective watercloset basin ...	—	76	—	76	65
„ cleanse dirty watercloset basin, floor, seat, etc. ...	—	8	3	11	6
„ repair seat or roof or door of watercloset, coalhouse or washhouse ...	—	286	—	286	159
„ renew or repair flushing apparatus ...	—	178	1	179	151
„ provide additional watercloset ...	—	2	—	2	1
„ provide water supply to watercloset ...	—	18	—	18	18
„ repair or renew soil or vent pipe ...	—	6	—	6	4
„ repair or renew bath, sink or lavatory waste pipe ...	—	31	—	31	19
„ renew dustbins or provide additional dustbins ...	—	199	—	199	126
„ repair, cleanse or renew urinal ...	—	—	—	—	—
„ repair chimney stacks and flues ...	—	145	—	145	71
„ cleanse dirty rooms, passages and bedding, etc. ...	1	—	—	1	1
„ limewash staircase walls, yard wall, conveniences, etc. ...	—	—	—	—	—
„ repair windows, floors, ceilings, doors and wall plaster ...	—	1379	—	1379	783
„ remedy damp walls ...	—	763	—	763	438
„ provide light and ventilation ...	—	28	—	28	15
„ repair main and offshoot roofs ...	—	1047	—	1047	646
„ repair or renew spouts ...	—	834	—	834	493
„ repair or renew k. ranges, fireplaces, washhouse boilers, etc. ...	—	667	—	667	383
„ provide domestic water supply... ..	—	100	—	100	57
„ provide or repair yard pavement ...	—	34	—	34	20
„ remove offensive accumulations ...	—	9	2	11	5
„ abate nuisance from the keeping of animals ...	—	4	—	4	6
„ abate other nuisances ...	—	101	—	101	56
TOTALS ...	2	6159	15	6176	3752

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Offence : —	How disposed of.
Public Health Act, 1936.	
Section 93 :	
8 Cases—Statutory Nuisances	4 Abatement Orders granted. 1 Settled out of Court. 2 Withdrawn. 1 Dismissed (Accused deceased).
Food and Drugs Act, 1955.	
Section 2 :	
1 Case—Cigarette in Scone.	£5 Fine.
Section 23 :	
1 Case—Did possess for sale for human consumption milk contained in 3 churns to which had been added water	£5 Fine. £5 5s. 0d. costs
Section 2 :	
1 Case—Sale of sausage deficient in Meat content to the extent of 11.2% of minimal amount	£10 Fine. £5 13s. 0d. costs

Common Lodging Houses.

There are two common lodging houses in the Borough. One accommodates 172 lodgers and is structurally sound and maintained in an excellent state of cleanliness and repair. The other lodging house accommodates 43 lodgers, most of whom are old age pensioners. The building is an aged structure and needs constant attention in the way of repairs and maintenance. The keeper is capable of keeping the place reasonably clean, but the costs of keeping the place in repair are very heavy,

As the inmates are mostly aged, it is not advisable at this juncture to withdraw the licence as the local authority would possibly be involved in finding other accommodation for these old men. Therefore, the licence is being maintained for the time being.

Offensive Trades : —

There are now only 12 offensive trades authorised in the Borough.

1 Gut Scraper.

2 Tripe Dressers.

9 Rag and Bone Merchants (one only collects bones).

16 Visits were made during the year to these premises.

Infringements included the white or colour washing of rag sorting premises, and 1 defective sanitary convenience.

Plans.—The practice of all plans for new buildings being submitted to this office for examination in relation to sanitary works has been continued throughout the year. This is an important connection between the Building Surveyor and the Health Department. The total number of plans examined and commented upon was 900.

DRAINAGE WORK IN CONNECTION WITH NEW BUILDINGS.

During the year the Inspection of Drainage Work on Council Estates was taken over by the Borough Engineer.

The following work has been carried out by the Inspector engaged for this particular branch of the Department.

DRAINAGE WORK in connection with New Buildings.

Type of Tests	Number of Tests	Faults—% of Total	Re-tests	Final tests of Completed Buildings	Certificates Issued	Interviews and advice	Inspections of work in progress
SMOKE	145	3 2.6	3	708	708	746	826
WATER	3679	84 2.2	84				
TOTALS	3824	87 2	87	708	708	1572	

ANALYSIS OF NEW DRAINAGE TESTED (in Feet)

STONEWARE				CAST-IRON			
	4"	6"	9"	12"	4"	6"	Total Miles
SMOKE	650	3071	739	371	8850	—	18 miles
WATER	58663	11610	208	78	10838	552	196 yds.
TOTALS	59313	14681	947	449	19688	552	2 ft.

PLANS			
Examined and eventually approved under Part IV of the Building Bye-Laws and other enactments	...	...	...
			1,008

Rat Repression.—Particulars of the work done by the Rodent Officer and three Rodent Operatives are given in the following table :

Complaints received	... ..	941
Premises inspected on receipt of complaint and otherwise	... ..	1,218
Rats caught by traps, or killed by hand or poisoned		7,121
Number of poison baits laid	... ..	27,020
Number of traps set	... ..	405
Visits for purpose of observation, work in progress or work done	... ..	3,902

Amount and Type of Poison used on	Red Squill	Zinc Phosphide	Arsenious Oxide	Warfarin	No. of Premises
Local Authority's Premises	—	34½ ozs.	—	38 lbs. 3 ozs.	90
Business Premises ...	—	57½ ozs.	—	202 lbs. 5 ozs.	176
Private Dwellings ...	—	63 ozs.	—	231 lbs. 10 ozs.	699

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

There are 14 premises within the Borough registered under the provisions of the above named Act, and 3 premises licensed for the storage of rag flock. No flock or other filling material is being manufactured within the Borough. 28 Visits were made to these premises during the year. All filling materials inspected on the above premises were from approved sources and carried the kite mark of the British Standard Specification. No samples of rag flock were taken during 1956.

Camping Sites—There are no sites in the Borough licensed for this particular purpose.

Smoke Abatement.

Work on the installation of modern equipment for the combustion of fuel was carried out at three separate establishments during the year and there seems every prospect that within the next three years at least all industrial premises will be using solid fuel for steam raising plants and will be able to operate such plants without any undue emission of smoke. Now that certain provisions of the Clean Air Bill 1956 have become operative the problem of air pollution from the domestic fire has to be tackled. This is to be done by the creating of smoke control areas, and it will involve the installation of approved appliances for the combustion of an authorised fuel as many of the existing grates are incapable of burning smokeless fuel satisfactorily. 137 Visits were paid to industrial premises in connection with smoke abatement and 18 timed observations on chimneys were carried out and advice given when necessary, in order to reduce where possible the amount of smoke emission from boiler chimneys.

Water.

29 Samples of water from the town mains supply were examined and were satisfactory. A complaint concerning the presence of minute particles of vegetable matter in the water supply was received, and it was discovered that this house was at the head of a branch main. A hydrant was installed at the head of this branch main and the main is being flushed regularly.

Swimming Baths.

22 Visits were made to the three public swimming baths in the Borough, and 18 samples of water taken during the time the baths were being used by the public. All samples were satisfactory.

Factories, Workshops and Shops, etc.

The following tables give an indication of the work carried out under the Factories Act, 1937—1948 and the Sanitary Accommodation Order, 1938.

Factories.

Premises.	Number of Notices		Statu- tory	Complied with
	Verbal	Intimation		
Factories with Mechanical power ...	12	—	—	11
Factories without Mechanical power	20	10	—	29
Other premises (Building sites, etc.)	8	—	—	8
TOTALS	40	10	—	48

704 inspections of these premises were made during the year. Infringements included unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation, ventilation, heating, cleanliness, overcrowding and floor drainage.

147 complaints were received during the year including 25 from H.M. Inspector of Factories.

There were 11 Outworkers notified to the Local Authority under the Act.

There are now no underground bakehouses in the Borough.

**FACTORY ACTS, 1937—1948 AND THE SANITARY
ACCOMMODATION REGULATIONS 1938—INSPECTIONS.**

Premises Inspected.	Number on Register	Number of	
		Inspections	Written Notices
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	233	101	10
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	761	571	40
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (this includes building sites, etc.)	21	32	2
TOTALS	1015	704	52

DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Number of Defects				
	Found	Remedied	Referred		Prosecutions
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	11	10	—	3	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	2	2	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	7	7	—	—	—
Sanitary } insufficient	41	39	—	3	—
Conveniences } unsuitable or defective	66	66	—	15	—
(S.7) } not separate for sexes	8	8	—	4	—
Other Offences :					
(Not including offences relating to outwork)	12	12	6	—	—
TOTALS ...	147	144	6	25	—

Shops :

The SHOPS ACT, 1950 (Sections 37, 38).

Subsection.	Notices		Complied with
	Writ-ten	Verbal	
Section 37—			
To provide and maintain suitable ventilation	—	8	8
To provide and maintain reasonable temperature	3	12	15
To provide suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation ...	13	55	63
To provide suitable and sufficient lighting	2	7	9
To provide proper and sufficient washing facilities	4	11	14
To provide and maintain facilities for the taking of meals ...	—	8	8
Section 38—			
Provisions of seats for female staff...	—	3	3
TOTALS ...	22	104	120

During the year 185 visits were made in respect of the above section of the Shops Act, 1950.

Many shop visits are included under the heading "Food and Drugs Act" and are not duplicated under this heading.

Repairs to shops and other business premises, including spouts, roofs, floors, etc., are included under the heading "Public Health Act."

Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Part II Poisons, Health Provisions.

93 Licences were taken out by shop-keepers during the year. 120 visits were made during the period respecting bottling, labelling and storage. Particular attention is paid to the storage of these poisons and the keeping of retailers Registers of Poisons, particularly where these poisons are ordered by phone and delivered to farmers, etc.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

1,339 Inspections were made during the year.

108 Infringements were noted and remedied. Many minor infringements, e.g., bin lids not in position, towels not readily available, windows not opened when necessary, were remedied at the time of the visit. Infringements included defective sanitary accommodation, lack of cleanliness, too infrequent white or colour washing, insufficient ventilation and lighting, also in respect of the supply of "hot and cold" or hot water to sinks and wash basins, the provision of First Aid Boxes and signs "No Smoking" "Now Wash Your Hands" etc., as per the new regulations.

The Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, came into force on 1st January, 1956, with the exception of certain provisions which were not put into operation until 1st July, 1956.

This problem was approached in a realistic way, by calling together separate sections of the food industry and discussing the problems arising from the introduction of the new legislation. Meat Traders, Fish Merchants, Grocers, Bakers, Confectioners and Canteen Personnel, were called to special meetings by their respective trade associations and a member of the inspectorial staff attended and explained the new provisions. Subsequent discussion clarified a number of the problems arising from the changes in law regarding food hygiene.

Much of the work carried out under this heading has been in an advisory capacity. The department has been helped considerably by the support and co-operation of the majority of food traders. This is very important in view of the shortage of trained, qualified inspectors.

The Food Traders Voluntary Guild of Hygiene is a very active body in Sunderland, and many new members were enrolled during the year. The Guild functions under the auspices of the Health Committee and the Public Health Inspectors.

Restaurant Kitchens (including Snack Bars and Workmen's Canteens, etc.)

62 visits were made to these premises. 46 infringements were noted and remedied. Many kitchens have been modernised, and the owners of other premises, having regard to the new legislation are making the necessary alterations and improvements.

Public Health Act, 1936.

211 visits were made under this heading, including visits to offices and business premises generally. 32 nuisances included defective sanitary accommodation, spouts, roofs and other defects. The number of Self-service Launderettes continues to increase, and the necessary work, alterations to buildings and drainage continues to be supervised by the Public Health Inspector.

Complaints of bad odours, due to defective electrical equipment continue to reach this office. The odour is due to certain plastics used in the electrical industry, which when heated give off a foul, fishy smell. This is most objectionable in office or shop.

No Statutory Notices were served during the year.

Food Poisoning.

35 cases of food poisoning, including bacillary dysentery, were verified by the Bacteriologist. 190 inspections were made during the year.

ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS

YEAR 1956.

APPENDIX D. (i).

Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected) Returned to Registrar General—

			First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Total
Food Poisoning	...	...	14	4	4	—	22
Dysentery	...	...	3	1	—	9	13

Outbreaks due to identified agents :

Total Outbreaks: Nil. Total Cases: Nil.

Outbreaks due to :

- (a) Chemical Poisons : Nil.
- (b) Salmonella Organisms : Nil.
- (c) Staphylococci (including toxins): Nil.
- (d) C.I. Botulinum : Nil.
- (e) Other Bacteria: Nil.

Outbreaks due to Undiscovered Cause :

Total Outbreaks: Nil. Total Cases: Nil.

Single Cases :

Agents Identified :

- (a) Chemical Poisons: Nil.
- (b) Salmonella Organisms: 22.
- (c) Staphylococci (including toxins): Nil.
- (d) C.I. Botulinum: Nil.
- (e) Other Bacteria (Sonne and Bacillary Dysentery): 13.

Total Cases : 35.

SECTION E.

HOUSING.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1956.

Number of new houses erected during the year ... 1,433
 Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts ... 2,182

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 5,455

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... —

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... —

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 552

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 1,518

Remedy of defects during the year without the service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its officers ... 1,092

Action under statutory Powers during the year :—

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 48*

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners ... 32

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 30

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

- | | |
|--|-------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which informal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 1,928 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices: | |
| (a) By owners | 82 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... | — |

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- | | |
|--|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made... .. | 62 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 39 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition was deferred under Section 10 of Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 | 14 |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 22 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil. |

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS BY HOUSING INSPECTORS

Housing Act, 1936.

Houses inspected for the purpose of Section 9 notices ...	59
Other visits under Section 9	298
Houses inspected for the purpose of Section 11 notices...	27
Houses inspected for the purpose of Section 12 notices...	19
Houses inspected under Section 10 (Work in Default) ...	39
Other visits under Section 10, 11, 12 and 13	588
Inspections of properties in Slum Clearance Areas ...	1,259
Special inspections	29
Inspections on complaints	12
Inspections of work in progress	43
Visits in respect of ownerships, land charges, etc....	16
Appointments and interviews	100
Surveys of Clearance Areas	52

Local Government (Miscellaneous) 1953 Provisions.

Houses surveyed for Section 10	...	...	...	...	15
Other visits under Section 10	...	...	...	...	21

Housing Repairs Act, 1954.**Houses inspected under Section 26**

(Certificate of Disrepair)	...	...	...	...	7
Other visits under Section 26	...	...	...	...	11

Total ... 2,595

SLUM CLEARANCE.

During the year 1956 steady progress has been maintained in the clearance of slum areas, as will be seen from the following table:

SLUM CLEARNCE TABLE.

YEAR	TITLE OF AREA	No. OF AREAS	TYPE OF ORDERS		No. of Dwelling Houses and Buildings included in orders	No. of Dwelling Houses Occupied	No. of Families	No. of Persons	CREAGE OF ORDERS d No. of Houses Included				TOTAL ACREAGE OF ORDERS	DATE OF COUNCIL RESOLUTION	DATE OF PUBLIC ENQUIRY	DATE OF CONFIRMATION OF ORDERS	Total Families and Persons Re-Housed During Year	
			C.P.O.	Clearance Orders					C.P.O.		CLEARANCE ORDERS						Families	Persons
									Ac	Houses	Acres	Houses						
1954	Lawrence Street	1	1	—	240	210	534	1596	13	213	—	—	13.5	8-8-54	14-12-54	3-3-55	—	—
1955	Moorgate Street Johnson Street Infirmery Row	15	2	—	212	190	349	996	69 39	137 57	— —	— —	10.68	7-12-55 7-12-55	17-4-56	10-7-56 27-7-56	101	410 40
1956	Howick Place	1	1	—	248	227	413	1165	12	237	—	—	30.85	13-6-56	27-11-56	16-4-57	389	1202
	Central	4	1	—	186	163	317	809	88	164	—	—		13-6-56				
	Woodbine Street	2	1	—	126	119	258	871	72	120	—	—		8-2-56	5-2-57	14-5-57		
	Trimdon St. West	1	1	—	26	24	47	129	19	24	—	—		14-3-56	10-7-56	24-9-56		
	Dunning Street	1	1	—	13	5	21	47	5	7	—	—		14-3-56	20-9-56	Not Confirmed		

SECTION F.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply. The supervision of all premises where milk is pasteurised, sterilised, stored or sold was carried out and the cleanliness of these premises was maintained. Regular sampling of milk was carried out during the year for bacteriological and biological examinations and for chemical analysis. In all a total of 812 samples were taken. It was necessary to impose an order under Regulation 20 Milk and Dairies Regulations requiring the pasteurising of the supply of milk from a farm situated outside the Borough. This supply was affected with *Brucella Abortus* and the milk was being distributed by a local Dairy. The order remained in force until negative samples were notified by the Bacteriologist. Several complaints were received concerning the supply of Tuberculin Tested milk in unsatisfactory bottles, and as this milk was being produced and bottled outside the Borough the facts were reported to the County Milk Regulations Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Dairies and Milkshops.—The following table shows the number of registered Dairies and Milkshops in the Borough:—

Number of Dairies and Milkshops in the Borough
on the register on 31st December, 1955:—

Milkshops	...	...	...	...	10
Sterilised milk only	...	...	...	...	530
Dairies	...	...	...	...	49

Number added to the Register during 1956:—

Sterilised milk only	...	...	...	...	41
Milkshops	...	...	...	...	—
Dairies	...	...	...	...	1

Number removed from Register during 1956:—

Dairies	3
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Number on Register on 31st December, 1956:—

Milkshops	...	...	...	...	10
Sterilised Milk only	...	...	...	...	571
Dairies	...	...	...	...	47

The following visits were paid during the year by the Milk and Dairies Inspector in connection with the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949, and the Milk (Special Designations) 1949:—

To Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	1310
To Railway Stations	...	...	...	2

NUMBER OF MILK SAMPLES SUBJECTED TO
ANALYTICAL EXAMINATION FOR THE ESTIMATE
OF MILKFAT, NON-FATTY SOLIDS OR ADDED
WATER, METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTION,
PHOSPHATASE TURBIDITY AND
BIOLOGICAL TESTS DURING 1956.

Chemical Analysis—

Milk	234
------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Methylene Blue Reduction Test—

Tuberculin Tested Milk	77
------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

Biological Examination—

Non-Designated Milk	...	...	...	64
Designated Milk	...	...	...	59

Phosphatase and Methylene Blue Test—

Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	196
T. T. Pasterurised Milk	...	...	...	145

Turbidity Test—

Sterilised Milk	37
-----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

MILK SAMPLES TAKEN FOR BIOLOGICAL
EXAMINATION. SOURCE OF SUPPLY.

Local Farmers	Local Dairymen per		Durham	Other Sources	Total	No. Positive T. B.	No. Positive Brucella Abortis
	Rail	Farmers					
9	—	114	122	1	123	—	9

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) RAW MILK
REGULATIONS, 1949,

MILK, (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) PASTEURISED AND
STERILISED MILK REGULATIONS, 1949—1956.

Samples of designated milk were taken from 1 local pasteurising and sterilising establishment, and from 4 pasteurising and sterilising depots outside the Borough which were supplying local dairymen or schools.

The total number of samples taken was 455 and these are classified below:—

	Tubercu- lin Tested	Pasteur- ised	T. T. Pasteur- ised	Steril- ised	Total
SATISFACTORY ...	66	189	139	37	431
UNSATISFACTORY	11	2	1	—	14
INVALID Temp. exceeding 65° F.	—	5	5	—	10
TOTALS ...	77	196	145	37	455

Of the 455 samples 14 failed to satisfy the statutory tests. The results of the examination of 10 samples were invalid due to the fact that at the time the samples were taken the maximum overnight temperature exceeded 65°F.

When samples of Tuberculin Tested milk were unsatisfactory the County Milk Production Officer was informed. Where a sample of Pasteurised milk from a source of supply outside the Borough was unsatisfactory, the Medical Officer of Health of the area in which the milk was processed was notified.

DESIGNATED MILKS AND ISSUE OF LICENCES.

Licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations), Raw Milk Regulations, 1949, and Milk Special Designations (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations, 1949 and 1956:—

Dealers (Pasteurisers) licences	...	...	...	...	1
„ (Sterilisers)	„	...	...	...	1
„ (Pasteurised)	„	...	...	...	61
„ (Sterilised)	„	...	...	...	571
„ (Tuberculin Tested licences	...	...	...	...	58
Supplementary Dealers (Pasteurised) licences	...	...	...	...	13
„ „ (Sterilised)	..	...	...	...	13
„ „ (Tuberculin Tested) licences	...	...	...	...	13

Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947.

Ice-cream Factories, Merchants and Dealers. A high standard of cleanliness has been maintained in all premises where ice-cream is manufactured, stored or sold. Frequent inspections were made at all local factories during the period when ice-cream was being manufactured, particular attention being paid to the subsequent cleansing and sterilising of equipment after use. There were 188 samples submitted for bacteriological grading and 82.22% of samples submitted were satisfactory compared with 84.21% for 1955. The average fat content of samples of ice-cream submitted for chemical analysis was 8.25%, the figure for 1955 was 6.5%. No sample was below the minimum of 5%.

RESULTS OF SAMPLES OF ICE-CREAM SUBMITTED FOR CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

Below 5% fat.	5%-7.5% fat	7.5%-10% fat	10% fat (and over)
Nil	7	3	2

RESULTS OF SAMPLES SUBMITTED FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTION TEST.

Grade 1	...	...	120	}	Satisfactory	...	155
Grade 2	...	...	35				
Grade 3	...	...	18	}	Unsatisfactory	...	33
Grade 4	...	...	15				
							<hr/> 188

The number of manufacturers in the town on the 31st December, 1956, was 16 and the number of factories 13. The number of retail shops selling wrapped ice-cream only was 451.
Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

ADULTERATION, &c.

The number of samples analysed under the above Act during the year was 406 and these are classified as follows:—

	Number	Percentage of Total Samples.
Milk	234	57.6%
Butter and Margarine	8	2.0%
Compound Articles	23	5.7%
Miscellaneous	131	2.3%
Drugs	10	2.5%

Of the 406 samples taken and submitted for analysis 18 (4.43%) were non-genuine, while in 1955 of 399 samples submitted 15 (3.8%) were non-genuine.

The 18 non-genuine samples were dealt with as follows. A letter of caution was sent in respect of 3 samples. No further action was taken in respect of 5 samples of milk, these samples being taken in transit to a local dairy and the average milk fat and non fatty solids of the total consignments from the producers concerned was above the minimal requirements. In respect of 2 samples which were informal it was impossible to obtain formal samples. One farmer was prosecuted for being in possession for the purpose of sale, milk which contained added water. 3 Informal samples and 3 formal samples were involved in this prosecution. A butcher was prosecuted for selling beef sausage containing less than 50% meat. 1 Informal and 1 formal sample were connected with these proceedings.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.

28 Visits were made to premises in connection with the above Act. 8 Samples of feeding stuffs and 6 samples of fertilisers were submitted for analysis. 2 Samples of feeding stuffs did not comply with the statutory statement which accompanied them. The manufacturer concerned was cautioned. 2 Samples fertiliser had incorrect statutory statements, and the manufacturers were cautioned. 1 Sample Superphosphate was being sold with an incomplete statutory statement. This was due to an error on the part of the retailer whose attention was drawn to the fact.

REPORT OF MILK AND DAIRIES INSPECTOR.

Visits	No. of Inspect- tions	De- faults found	Com- munica- tions
MILK :			
To inspect dairy premises	487	12	7
„ inspect retail shops	115	8	6
„ examine milk churns	453	10	5
„ examine milk vehicles	196	17	12
ICE-CREAM :			
To inspect vehicles and utensils	122	19	10
„ „ manufacturers premises	395	33	33
„ „ merchants premises	14	1	1
„ „ vendors premises	352	22	17
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT :			
To obtain milk samples	234	11	6
„ obtain other samples	172	8	5
BACTERIOLOGY :			
To obtain milk samples	578	19	14
„ obtain water samples	29	—	—
„ „ „ „ (Swimming Baths)	18	—	—
MISCELLANEOUS :			
To Premises under Fertilisers and Feed- ing Stuffs Act, 1926	28	5	5
Other visits of inspection	243	—	—
Smoke observations	137	18	12
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951	28	2	1

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The following table gives details of the number of animals slaughtered and the number of carcasses condemned as well as the parts and organs condemned.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number slaughtered and inspected ...	4885	1004	639	24550	12715
All Diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	7	16	6	6	20
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	839	110	—	1075	694
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	17.3	12.55	0.94	4.8	5.6
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	13	—	—	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	285	155	—	—	102
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	5.85	15.7	—	—	0.83
Cysticercosis					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	12	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment for refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned...	—	—	—	—	—

SLAUGHTERING TOTALS FOR 1955.

Cattle ex Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
3,740	1,111	217	21,080	13,141

In addition to home killed lamb, mutton and pork carcasses, approximately 4,000 carcasses of beef from animals slaughtered outside the Borough were sold in the wholesale meat shops.

21 Slaughterhouses are licensed and six of these premises are used for the wholesale trade.

Killing at weekends and at night is the rule in many of the slaughterhouses. In many of these premises, it is difficult to maintain a good standard of hygiene due to lack of space and inadequate facilities.

Condemned meat and offal is collected by a firm outside the Borough and processed into fertilizer. All other food is put into an incinerator or disposed of by controlled tipping by the Cleansing Department.

DETAILS OF DISEASED CARCASSES CONDEMNED.

	Cattle- exclud- ing cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Totals
Tuberculosis	1	13	—	—	3	17
Fever, Acute	—	—	—	—	7	7
Decomposition—Found dead ..	—	1	3	5	—	9
Septicæmia	3	12	—	1	11	27
Emaciation and Oedema	4	3	3	—	1	11
Swine Fever	—	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS	8	29	6	6	23	72

One case of Swine Fever was notified and confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture's Inspector. The affected slaughterhouse was cleansed and disinfected, and all animal contacts on the farm slaughtered under Ministry Order.

One case of suspected Anthrax was notified but was not confirmed by the Ministry's Inspector.

Four imported mutton carcasses were condemned at the wholesale meat shops due to Mould.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED

	lbs.		lbs.
Beef	16,615	Pork	2,238
Veal	320	Offal	36,156
Mutton	387	Imported Beef	518
Imported Mutton	169		

Total Amount: 25 tons 3 cwts. 2 qrs. 11 lbs.

The meat and part of the offal is salvaged, small amounts of the offal being burnt in the incinerator.

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED AND COLLECTED FOR POSSIBLE SALVAGE BY CLEANSING DEPARTMENT.

	lbs.		lbs.
Tinned meats	7,372	Confectionery	560
Tinned vegetables	4,071	Dried Fruit	802
Tinned milk	609	Shell fish	310
Tinned fish	96	Frozen Eggs	72
Tinned fruit	1,463	Eggs	60
Provisions	1,097	Poultry	25
Bacon	142	Sausage	99

Total amount: 7 tons 9 cwts. 3 qrs. 6 lbs.

INSPECTION OF FOODSTUFFS.
NUMBER OF VISITS TO PREMISES.

Slaughterhouses	3,561	Fish shops and stalls	84
Wholesale meat depots ...	972	Retail Fruiterers	19
Butchers shops	894	Open Air Stalls	150
Meat carrying vehicles ...	400	Railway premises	8
Tripe preparers	26	Canteens, Hotels or	
Gut scrapers	30	Institutions	45
Wholesale Provisions	170	Horse Meat shops	25
Retail Provisions	510	Private houses	40
Wholesale Fruiterers	12	Bakeries	22

A number of cases relating to foreign matter in food stuffs were investigated. As a result, one firm was fined £5; a warning letter was sent in another instance.

The remaining cases were settled satisfactorily with the persons and firms concerned.

HYGIENE REGULATIONS.

Butchers' Premises.

Clothes lockers provided	13
Water Closets installed	2
Extraction of steam and flue gasses	1
Walls, ceilings, benches, etc.	
Repaired or lined	19
Drainage installed and tested	16
Washbasins and sinks with cold water:	
Provided	40
Heaters provided	30

SECTION G.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1956.

	At all ages	Under 1 yr.	1 and under 3 yrs.	3 and under 5 yrs.	5 and under 10 yrs.	10 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 25 yrs.	25 and under 45 yrs.	45 and under 65 yrs.	65 years and over.
Diphtheria (including Membraneous Croup)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	109	-	5	15	67	15	5	1	1	-
Meningococcal Infections	15	-	3	1	5	2	1	3	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis Para and Non-Para	12	-	2	-	4	3	3	-	-	-
Pneumonia (All forms)	353	44	36	18	35	8	20	45	97	50
Erysipelas	21	-	1	-	1	-	-	4	9	6
Measles	137	6	37	29	53	5	5	2	-	-
Whooping Cough	310	35	96	88	85	4	-	2	-	-
Chicken Pox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	133	-	-	-	-	-	56	77	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	13	1	2	-	6	1	-	3	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	22	1	3	4	6	3	2	2	1	-
Acute Encephalitis (Infective and Post-Infectious)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis: Pulmonary	234	1	3	2	4	16	77	75	46	10
Meninges & C.N.S.	7	-	1	1	1	-	1	3	-	-
Other	21	-	-	-	2	2	11	5	-	1
TOTALS	1392	93	189	158	269	59	181	222	154	67

DISINFECTION.

The following work has been done by the Disinfecting Officer:—

Number of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	686
Number of calls for bedding, etc.	...	...	...	405

The work carried out at the Disinfecting Station at the Hospital for Infectious Diseases is given in the following table:—

Articles	Disinfected	Destroyed.
Beds	181	32
Mattresses	347	48
Blankets	882	65
Pillows	502	39
Quilts	78	18
Sheets	491	83
Bolsters	217	25
Sundries	752	256
	3,450	566

SCABIES.

The rooms and bedding in respect of all discharged cases of scabies were disinfested, a total of 824 verminous rooms being disinfested by the Officer during the year as well as the cleansing of 41 persons, infested with vermin.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

For the report on Venereal Diseases, I am indebted to Dr. Kirkhouse, Consultant Venereologist; and I have extracted the relevant facts and figures from his report on the Special Treatment Department of the Sunderland Royal Infirmary.

ATTENDANCE OF SUNDERLAND PATIENTS, 1956.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
M. ...	216	236	245	260	255	232	196	246	295	271	318	281	3051
F. ...	205	202	186	222	297	343	193	203	172	214	260	206	2703

NEW REGISTRATIONS

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
M. ...	32	25	24	32	37	25	22	24	30	22	27	22	322
F. ...	12	5	2	6	10	5	6	7	9	7	7	6	82

Syphilis :

Only four new cases of early Syphilis were seen during the year, the male case being a sailor who acquired the infection overseas, and unfortunately infected his wife; in the two other cases, both females, the origin of the infection was not traced.

No cases of infantile congenital syphilis were seen; this is most satisfactory, indicating that adequate treatment given during pregnancy protects the infant from infection.

Treatment :

Treatment has been carried out on the same lines as last year with Penicillin and Bismuth. Several cases of sensitivity to Penicillin have occurred, but none with serious results.

A new preparation of Penindural has been produced, which does not cause pain after injection.

Gonorrhœa :

This year there has been a slight increase in the number of cases of Acute Gonorrhœa; there is no known reason for this, but it is in line with what is reported from other parts of the country.

Treatment :

Penicillin is still the drug of choice.

Urethritis :

There has been a slight decrease in the number of cases of Urethritis in the Sunderland area.

Some of these cases may originally have been Gonococcal in origin, such as sea going men who have received some form of treatment prior to reporting at the Clinic, and being G.C. negative by the time they do.

Treatment :

This has been on the same lines as previously.

N.V. Cases :

Nothing extraordinary has been seen during the year, just the usual warts, balanitis, etc.

Visits. During the year, the Health Visitor (seconded for this purpose) made 265 personal visits, of this number 200 persons were contacted and 65 visits proved ineffectual. As a result of these visits 230 persons reported to the clinic.

Ante-natal Cases. Four Sunderland pregnant women patients were carried over from 1955 for delivery in 1956. All were normal deliveries.

The total number of ante-natal mothers for the Borough for 1956 was 10.

These pregnancies resulted in:—

- 6 normal deliveries (all babies N.V.D.).
- 1 miscarriage.
- 1 discharged before delivery.
- 2 carried forward for delivery in 1957.

The mothers were diagnosed as:—

- 6 Late Syphilis.
- 1 Congenital Syphilis.
- 2 Latent Syphilis.
- 1 N.V.D.

**Cases Treated at the Special Treatment Department,
Royal Infirmary, during 1956.**

	M.	F.	Total.
No. of patients under treatment at the beginning of the year	210	275	485
No. of patients (removed from the Register) who returned for treatment	3	7	10

Patients dealt with for the first time:—

	M.	F.	Total.
Syphilis	19	22	41
Gonorrhœa	76	9	85
Non-gonococcal urethritis (males only) ...	82	—	82
Any other conditions requiring treatment ...	75	34	109
Conditions not requiring treatment ...	168	50	218
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	420	115	535
No. of patients dealt with for first time who had been transferred from other Centres ...	23	2	25
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals ...	656	399	1055
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

				M.	F.	Total.
No. of cases discharged	...	...	...	310	120	430
No. of patients not completing treatment and/or observation	...	...	...	23	14	37
Transferred to other Centres	...	...	...	112	5	117
Under treatment at 31-12-56	...	...	...	211	260	471
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			Totals	...	656	399
					<hr/>	<hr/>
					1055	

140 Merchant Seamen reported during the year, of whom 54 were foreigners.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 24 more cases of Tuberculosis notified than in the previous year, and 5 less deaths.

During the year 234 cases of pulmonary and 28 non-pulmonary were notified, making a total of 262 cases.

Of these 151 were males and 111 females.

Cases of Tuberculosis notified and deaths from the disease during 1956:—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	2	3	—	2	—	—	—	—
5—15	11	9	1	4	—	—	—	—
15—25	32	45	6	8	—	1	—	—
25—45	47	28	1	5	3	2	1	—
45—65	43	3	—	—	15	1	—	1
65—75	7	2	—	1	2	—	—	—
75 upwards	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	143	91	8	20	22	4	1	1

In connection with the work of the Chest Clinic, the Senior Consultant Chest Physician reports as follows:

There are four whole-time Tuberculosis Visitors concerned with the preventive care and after-care of tuberculosis. They work entirely from the Chest Clinic where they have every facility for close co-operation with the Chest Physicians and other Clinic staff and also the necessary facilities for radiological and immunisation work.

Incidence and Death Rate.

There has been another slight fall in the number of deaths from tuberculosis, although the known incidence of the disease, as revealed by notifications shows little change. The real incidence is probably falling and the pick-up rate from Mass Radiography examinations is dropping, in spite of every effort made to utilise the Unit among sections of the population in which a high incidence is to be expected. The number of cases of active tuberculosis found from 1000 persons X-rayed was:— 1951 9.5; 1952 7.4; 1953 7.5; 1954 4.2; 1955 4.0 and 1956 3.0.

	Deaths.		Notifications.	
	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.
1949	123	18	279	49
1950	90	12	211	45
1951	84	12	278	52
1952	61	6	267	34
1953	48	2	228	24
1954	46	4	217	29
1955	30	3	214	24
1956	26	2	234	28

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register is increasing and now stands at 1,901. This is partly due to cases which would have died before the advent of modern chemotherapy and are now living and remaining on the Register, and partly to the reluctance among Chest Physicians to take cases off the Register as recovered. The Tuberculosis Register is no longer of value in assessing the incidence of the disease and will continue to increase in size while the incidence falls.

Of the 234 notifications of respiratory tuberculosis 38 were discovered by Mass X-ray and 37 by contact examination, i.e., 32% of the respiratory notifications were made by case finding methods.

Contact Examination.

From the 262 new cases of tuberculosis 1,214 household contacts were examined. 37 cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered. 369 of the contacts were tuberculin negative and were offered B.C.G. immunisation. 316 accepted and were given B.C.G. and in 53 cases the parents refused vaccination.

	Total Notifications.	Contacts Examined.	Contacts given B.C.G.	Active Pul. Tub. cases discovered
1951	330	975	141	26
1952	301	1317	343	36
1953	252	917	252	24
1954	246	984	319	31
1955	238	990	292	32
1956	262	1214	316	37

Rehabilitation Clinic.

The Rehabilitation Clinic has been continued and has again proved of the greatest value. I am very grateful for the helpful co-operation of the Disablement Re-settlement Officers at the local offices and also at the Felling Industrial Re-habilitation unit.

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
No. of cases interviewed ...	91	69	63	78	75
Placed in employment or found work following interview ...	39	26	23	44	31
Accepted for training ...	8	10	4	9	10
Accepted for rehabilitation ...	8	9	9	13	14
Ceased to contact D.R.O. ...	7	3	7	15	10
Unemployed or sick at date of review	14	17	20	18	24

Waiting List.

There was no waiting list for pulmonary tuberculosis beds either at hospital or sanatorium and no waiting list for the Thoracic Surgical Unit at Seaham.

The following is an extract of the 1956 report of the Principal School Medical Officer, which is included here as the responsibility for B.C.G. Vaccination rests with the Health Committee:—

B.C.G. Vaccination.

The scheme for B.C.G. Vaccination of selected groups of school children, initiated in 1954, was continued in 1956. The vaccinations were carried out by School Medical Officers in the schools, after parents had signed a consent form.

A Tuberculin Test (Mantoux) was first carried out, and three days later the School Doctor returned to note the result and carry out B.C.G. vaccination where necessary. Two weeks later another visit was paid to the school to inspect the vaccination, and again in about six to eight weeks to carry out a post-B.C.G. Mantoux test.

All children who were originally Mantoux positive were later asked to attend the Mass Radiography Unit along with other members of the family.

The following table gives details of B.C.G. Vaccination during the year :—

- 1780 children were Mantoux tested.
- 1223 children were found to have a negative reaction and were given a B.C.G. Vaccination.
- 450 children were found to be Mantoux positive.
- 26 children were found to be doubtful.

684 children attended Mass Radiography Unit for X-ray (this included a number of cases from the year 1955). One child was found to have active pulmonary tuberculosis.

514 household contacts attended Mass Radiography Unit for X-ray. Two cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered.

Two special Mass X-ray surveys of schools were carried out following the discovery of infectious cases in the schools, namely: —

St. Patrick's R.C. School

170 children.

8 staff.

Training College.

165 students.

13 staff.

No cases of active tuberculosis were discovered following these investigations.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT.

[illegible]

Extract from the Report of the Tuberculosis Care Committee

234 cases have been dealt with during the year, and the Care Committee takes pride in the fact that it has been able in a small way to make life more bearable for sufferers from tuberculosis.

Summary of Assistance given during the year.

	£	s.	d.
48 persons granted clothing	83	14	9
30 persons granted footwear	44	17	8
25 families granted beds and bedding ...	94	9	0
72 patients received nourishment	435	11	4½
33 cases helped through Voluntary Fund ...	102	15	0
19 grants disbursed from Save the Children Fund	47	10	0
Cash gifts for Christmas granted to patients in Hospital or Sanatoria	59	10	0
18 cases helped through Benevolent Funds ...	140	7	6
51 families helped with Coal at Christmas ...	33	1	6
5 children helped through special Fund per B.B.C.	9	15	6
Value of Help given to Ward 10 General Hos- pital (adopted by Appeals Committee) ...	118	4	1
45 children received toys, from Staff and Patrons of the Ritz Cinema & Guides			
1 pram	1	10	0
7 Appliances lent.			

Occupational Therapy :

Costs re-imbursed by the Ministry of Health
£640 10s. 2d., less goods sold and credited to
the Scheme £168 14s. 8d.—£471 15s. 6d.

Costs paid from Voluntary Funds
(46 John Street) £34 8s. 7d.

Costs against the Occupational Therapy Centre,
Regent Terrace, Grangetown, from Vol-
untary Fund £87 7s. 2d., Goods sold
£2 5s. 0d.

The Non-ambulant Scheme for patients to receive instruction in Handicrafts in their own homes, remains as popular as ever and provides a happy diversion and, in small measure, a lucrative one. Patients are proud of their work and almost without exception look forward to the weekly visit of the teacher.

The work is of high standard and it is suprising how adept the patients become after a short period of instruction—very few visited refuse to undertake this work.

Extract from Report of the Care in Illness Committee.

The Care in Illness Committee has had an interesting years work, dealing with 369 cases in all. Many of these cases required the loan of surgical appliances and invalid chairs in addition to the many other needs which arise from illness. When the head of the family is unable to work for any length of time it is understandable that the wife finds difficulty in making ends meet and the Care in Illness Committee can often help by supplying nourishment to the invalid.

During the year £56 5s. 0d. was received from various Forces' Benevolent Funds on behalf of seven cases.

The National Society for Cancer Relief has been most generous towards the welfare and relief of patients in the area. Cases are now receiving weekly grants and the Society has also made special grants for bedding, clothing, etc. No case recommended by the Care in Illness Committee has been refused help.

The demand for surgical appliances has at times exceeded the supply and new stocks have had to be purchased. A number of invalid chairs have been overhauled and repaired, but it is necessary during the Summer months to restrict the period of loan to one month so that as many as possible could have a turn during the fine weather. Gifts of chairs would be very gratefully received so that this service could be extended to all who require it.

Diet plays an important part in the care of the sick and extra nourishment in the form of milk and special foods was supplied to forty cases. The National Assistance Board is very co-operative and in many instances increase allowances to help with the cost of extra nourishment for invalids. Other patients needing convalescent treatment have their own special problems such as the need for clothing and train fares.

Summary of assistance granted during the year: —

	£	s.	d.
40 cases received grants of nourishment amounting to	50	10	6
11 cases received grants of clothing amounting to ...	11	11	6
1 case received grants of bedding amounting to ...	2	12	0
1 case had holiday provided	6	0	0
1 case had fares paid	2	14	0

The following appliances were lent during the year: —

Invalid Chairs	... 94	Air Rings	... 57
Bed Rests	... 50	Urine Bottles	... 49
Bed Pans	... 108	Rubber Sheets	... 75
Bed Cages	... 14	Commodes	... 26
Walking Sticks	... 13	Crutches	... 12 pairs
Feeding Cups	... 6	Rubber Bed Pans	... 2
Hot Water Bottle	... 1	Bed Table	... 1
Air Bed	... 1	Spinal Carriages	... 2

During the year a small deposit has been charged for the loan of appliances.

369 cases were dealt with during the year. Of this number, 187 were personal applications and the remainder were recommended by: —

Doctors	...	92	National Assistance Board	7	
Almoners	...	29	Health Department	...	3
District Nurses		35	British Red Cross	...	3
British Legion	...	2	Ministry of Pensions	...	1
Home Help	...	1	Welfare Officer	...	3
Visitors	...	3	Committee Member	...	1
Blind Institute	...	2			

SUNDERLAND SOCIAL SERVICE WELFARE COMMITTEE

Extract of Annual Report 1956

Work done: —

Callers	...	...	...	...	...	...	793
Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	469
Shelter arranged	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Maternity Home arranged	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Babies placed for adoption	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Adoptions legalised	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Affiliation orders gained in Court	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Private agreements	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

SECTION H.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

1. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) The Mental Health Committee consisting of 11 members have met as usual at monthly intervals throughout the year to consider matters relating to the care and after care of persons suffering from mental illness or mental deficiency.

(b) **Staff.** There are still thirteen workers employed in this section of the Health Service. During the year, Dr. W. Hind, the Medical Officer for Mental Health, left to take up another post, and I should like to place on record my appreciation of the valuable service rendered during his eight years with this Authority. He has been succeeded in the post by Dr. L. W. Robinson.

(c) **Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Boards and Hospital Management Committees.**

I am pleased to report that co-operation between Local Health Authority Mental Health Workers and the members and staff of Regional Hospital Boards and Hospital Management Committees has continued very satisfactorily. This kind of contact and discussion between workers in the service is of great value in dealing with the parents and guardians of patients, also the patients themselves when they return home on licence or on discharge from hospitals.

(d) **Duties delegated to Voluntary Organisations.**

Throughout the year, much valuable assistance has been given by various voluntary organisations, and in particular by the members of the W.V.S., who have been most co-operative and helpful in supplying clothing to needy families.

(e) **Training of Staff.**

Two members of the Staff have attended refresher courses organised by the National Association for Mental Health, one for staffs of Occupation Centres, and the second, still in progress, for Mental Health Workers. The latter course is in the nature of an experiment, being of six months' duration. If successful, it is hoped to continue it annually, to be recognised by the Ministries of Health and Education as an 'In Service' training course for Mental Health workers, and an examination will be sat and Diplomas awarded to successful candidates. This course was carried out with the co-operation of the Department of Psychiatry, University of Leeds.

II. (i) (a) **Prevention of Mental Illness, Care and After-Care of Mentally Ill and Defective.**

The work in connection with the prevention of mental illness, care and after care has been maintained with the co-operation of all workers concerned. Due to the shortage of social workers generally, it has not been possible to do everything that one could wish to be done in this direction.

(b) **Under the Mental Deficiency Acts.**

Much valuable work has been done and effort made to help persons who are ascertained as "subject to be dealt with" as a statutory duty, also in respect of those who can only be considered as under "voluntary" or "friendly" supervision. It has been observed that earlier discharge of patients on licence from mental deficiency hospitals is causing some anxiety. Many patients discharged after a long period in hospital have no parents or relatives to look after them permanently, or if they have, they are not willing or need persuading to do so, and patients having left sheltered residential employment are unable to obtain work in their own home town. Some patients are having to live in a hostel in unsatisfactory conditions, and it appears that in the future it will be necessary to provide more occupation centres and to create suitable employment for discharged persons, as well as for those who are growing up in the community without ever having been to hospital for care and training. Such facilities are necessary in order to help them to lead a successful existence in the community.

It is sometimes difficult to find employment and a home for the mentally handicapped person, and the finding and retention of employment depends upon the co-operation of Mental Health Workers, Ministry of Labour staff, and employers.

The marriage of defectives is also a social problem, particularly where both partners are of low intelligence. The majority of these couples still require support in the community and are a source of anxiety to various social agencies.

Lack of accommodation in hospital is the cause of much strain and stress in the family circle where the defective child or adult requires more supervision, care and training than can be provided at home. Only very few cases have been accepted for temporary care although there is an increasing demand for this service.

Close co-operation between the various local authority officers has obviated the duplication of visits, thus the patient or client has been spared unnecessary distress.

(ii) **Guardianship.**

Three patients were transferred from licence to guardianship after being considered as not yet suitable for full discharge from Order, but yet not now requiring hospital care and training. They

were placed under guardianship of an officer of the Local Authority, but remained in their residential employment, thus still being provided with adequate care.

(iii) **Occupation Centres.**

These Centres continue to do very good work. The premises are overcrowded and inadequate to carry out all the activities one would wish. The average attendance at the children's class during this year has not been high due to various causes—parents being unable to bring their children, sickness, etc. A new building is urgently needed, but meanwhile the best possible use is made of the present premises, equipment and furnishings being kept up to date and decorations as bright and attractive as possible.

The classes for the adult defectives are very well supported and the handwork done is of a high standard. The building used for the adult male class is scheduled for slum clearance purposes and it is, therefore, increasingly urgent to obtain alternative premises for this section.

With the kind co-operation of the School Medical Department, the children received treatment at the clinics when required, and a medical inspection was carried out during September by this Department. Arrangements are also made when necessary with the Dental Surgeon attending patients at Cherry Knowle Hospital for the adult trainees to receive dental treatment, and I would like to place on record my gratitude to the Medical Superintendent of Cherry Knowle Hospital and the Dental Surgeon, for this service.

Summer outing were arranged for the pupils of the Centres; the children went to South Shields and the adults to Morpeth and the Northgate and District Hospital. Christmas parties were also arranged at which the Mayor and Mayoress were present.

The Centres were visited by the Board of Control (Ministry of Health) Inspector on the 3rd May, 1956. The report again indicated awareness of the inadequacy of the present premises. It is hoped that with their co-operation it will be possible to take definite action to commence a new building in the near future.

Abstract from Ministry of Health Annual Report.

1. Particulars of cases reported during 1956

- (a) Cases ascertained to be defectives
 "subject to be dealt with"
 Number in which action taken on
 reports by:—

(1) Local Education Authorities
on children:

	Under age 16		Aged 16 and over	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
(i) While at school or liable to attend school	4	4	—	—
(ii) On leaving special schools	—	—	1	1
(iii) On leaving ordinary schools	—	—	—	—
(2) Police or by Courts	—	—	—	—
(3) Other Sources	4	3	2	4
	8	7	3	5
(b) Cases reported who were found to be defectives but were not regarded as “subject to be dealt with” on any ground	—	—	—	—
(c) Cases reported who were not regarded as defectives and are thus excluded from (a) or (b)	—	—	1	4
(d) Cases reported in which action was incomplete at 31st December, 1956, and are thus excluded from (a) or (b)	2	—	1	1
TOTAL	10	7	5	10

2. Disposal of Cases reported during 1956.

(a) Of the cases ascertained to be defectives “subject to be dealt with” (i.e. at 1 (a)), number:				
(i) Placed under Statutory Supervision	8	6	1	4
(ii) Placed under Guardianship ...	—	—	—	—
(iii) Taken to “Places of Safety”...	—	—	—	—
(iv) Admitted to Hospitals ...	—	1	2	1
(b) Of the cases not ascertained to be defectives “subject to be dealt with” (i.e. at 1 (b)), number:				
(i) Placed under Voluntary Supervision	—	—	—	—
(ii) Action unnecessary	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—
(c) Cases reported at 1 (a) or (b) above who removed from the area or died before disposal was arranged ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	8	7	3	5

3. Number of Mental defectives for whom care was arranged by the local health authority under Circular 5/52 during 1956 and admitted to—

	Under age 16		Aged 16 and over	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
(a) National Health Service Hospitals—	2		1	—
(b) Elsewhere	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	2	1	—

4. Total cases on Authority's Registers at 31.12.1956.

(i) Under Statutory Supervision	51	28	423	364
(ii) Under Guardianship	—	—	2	—
(iii) In "Places of Safety"	—	—	2	3
(iv) In Hospitals	17	16	115	110
	68	44	542	477
(v) Under Voluntary Supervision ...	—	—	32	40
TOTAL	68	44	574	517

5. Number of defectives under Guardianship on 31st December, 1956, who were dealt with under the provisions of Section 8 or 9, Mental Deficiency Act, 1913 (included in 4 (ii).

—	—	—	—
---	---	---	---

6. Classification of defectives in the Community on 31.12.56 (according to the need at that date.)

(a) Cases included in 4 (i) — (iii) in need of hospital care and reported accordingly to the hospital authority—

(1) In urgent need of hospital care:

(i) "cot and chair" cases ...	3	5	—	—
(ii) ambulant low grade cases	4	1	2	1
(iii) medium grade cases ...	—	—	—	—
(iv) high grade cases ...	—	—	—	—

TOTAL urgent cases	7	6	2	1
--------------------	---	---	---	---

	Under age 16		Aged 16 and over	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
(2) Not in need of hospital care:—				
(i) "cot and chair" cases ...	1	—	—	—
(ii) ambulant low grade cases	3	1	7	7
(iii) medium grade cases ...	—	—	4	2
(iv) high grade cases ...	—	—	1	1
TOTAL non-urgent cases	4	1	12	10
TOTAL	11	7	14	11
(b) Of the cases included in items 4 (i), (ii) and (v), number considered suitable for:—				
(i) Occupation Centre ...	30	26	—	—
(ii) Industrial Centre ...	—	—	75	62
(iii) Home Training ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	30	26	75	62
(c) Of the cases included in 6 (b), number receiving training on 31.12.56.				
(i) In Occupation Centre (including voluntary centres) ...	21	9	2	—
(ii) In Industrial Centre ...	3	—	12	15
(iii) From a Home Teacher in groups ...	—	—	—	—
(iv) From a Home Teacher at home (not in groups) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	24	9	14	13

**Account of Work Undertaken by the Duly Authorised Officer
under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890 and
1930, during the year ended 31st December, 1956.**

During the past year there has been a continued increase in the number of persons of all ages requiring the assistance of the Duly Authorised Officer.

The public now appear to be fully aware of the services available in connection with the treatment of mental illness, and are entering Mental Hospitals with much more confidence than in the past, knowing that not only will they receive skilled modern treatment and care,

but in many cases companionship, which is often a valuable incentive towards their recovery.

Aged mentally disordered persons still remain a problem, particularly those who, although in need of care and treatment, refuse to leave their homes either for Hospital or the Old People's Hostels. Often their condition is such that it does not bring them within the scope of the Lunacy Acts, and therefore continued supervision has to be undertaken.

More people are seeking and accepting treatment as Voluntary Patients under Section I Mental Treatment Act, 1930; although the Duly Authorised Officer has no statutory duty under this section, his services are often required to assist their entry into hospital. His presence and guidance on these occasions is much appreciated by patients and relatives, and whenever possible patients are persuaded to enter hospital as Voluntary Patients rather than under Order.

The Duly Authorised Officer as a Mental Welfare Officer is now well known to the public, and no fewer than 165 interviews have taken place at the office and his residence during the past year; in certain cases the problem for which advice was sought was in no way connected with Mental Welfare.

Bed Situation.

Although the demand for mental hospital accommodation continued to increase throughout the year, beds were available with little delay for all in need of mental treatment; only with certain types of cases have waiting lists been resorted to, mainly for the aged who could no longer be looked after at home and were likely to become long stay patients when admitted to hospitals.

After-Care.

After care visits were made when time allowed and help and advice given, but owing to the pressure of dealing with new notifications and the more urgent type of cases, this important aspect of Mental Welfare work has not been developed as much as could be desired, particularly amongst those who have been long stay patients in Mental Hospitals.

Co-operation.

Co-operation with the National and Local Organisations remains at a high level, particularly so with the Medical Staff of the Hospitals with whom the Duly Authorised Officer comes into contact, and the good working arrangements created during the past few years with the General Practitioners continue to expand. The Police have been most helpful when dealing with certain types of attempted suicides; the disposal of such cases is left to the Duly Authorised Officer with a view to their admission to Hospital.

Hospitals Used.

Cherry Knowle Hospital, Winterton Hospital and South Shields General Hospital, Psychiatric Department.

The following is a summary of patients conveyed to hospitals:

Persons brought to the notice of the Duly Authorised Officer suffering from some form of mental or physical disorder:

New Cases	...	...	...	230	
Old Cases	...	...	...	187	
		Total	...	—	417

Assisted to Hospitals under Orders or as Voluntary Patients dealt with as follows:

To Cherry Knowle Hospital under Lunacy Acts 1890.

Certified under Section 16 Lunacy Act, 1890	...	...	71
Removed under Section 20 Lunacy Act, 1890	...	...	67
Removed under Section 21/1 Lunacy Act, 1890—			
Justices Order 14 days	...	...	35
Accompanied to Hospital under Section I Mental Treatment Act, 1930 and received as Voluntary Patients			42
Received as Temporary Patients under Section 5 Mental Treatment Act, 1930	...	...	1

To South Shields General Hospital, Psychiatric Department:

Under Duly Authorised Officer's Order Section 20 Lunacy Act, 1890	6
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To Winterton Mental Hospital:

Under Summary Reception Section 16 Lunacy Act, 1890			3
Accompanied to Hospital under Section I Mental Treatment Act, 1930 and received as Voluntary Patients	...	...	2
Returned to Hospitals whilst on Trial	...	...	2
Assisted to General Hospital, Sunderland	1
Assisted to Welfare Hostel for aged persons	1

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Admissions to Hospitals by Duly Authorised Officer:

1950	95
1951	110
1952	153
1953	...	...	180
1954	...	...	191
1955	..	...	212
1956	...	...	231

